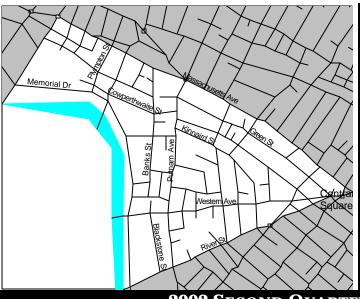
# NEIGHBORHOOD 7 RIVERSIDE





**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by Massachusetts Avenue, River Street, the Charles River, and JFK Street

**POPULATION:** 10,432 residents

3.341 households

### **AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**

\$27,415

Neighborhood #7 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 3 (2 officer cars) and Cars 6R and 10R (1 officer cars). Also included within its boundaries are walking routes 7A and 7B.

### 2002 SECOND QUARTER REVIEW

Housebreaks veered away from the citywide trend of increasing in numbers, as Riverside's numbers decreased by 5% from 22 to 21 incidents during the first half of 2002. There were no discernible spatial or temporal trends identified during the six months of 2002. Western Ave. hosted two breaks during April and May, as did Mass Ave. The only arrest for burglary in this area during this time period was for a break on Auburn St. in June and was categorized as domestic in nature. • Although the increase of street robberies registered at 25%, there was actually only one incident more than this time last year. In fact, all of these robberies took place over the past three months. Only one arrest for street robbery occurred during the second quarter. This apprehension took place after the victim was asked for money and declined. When the victim declined, he was hit over the head with a beer bottle and was robbed of his cell phone. Of the five robberies, a knife was shown in one episode, and was threatened in one additional incident. • There were eleven drug arrests in Riverside over the first six months, a 175% increase from the four incidents this time last year. Six of the arrests took place in Squares including Central, Harvard, and Bay. The remaining five occurred in various areas of Riverside. Of the arrested persons, four were Cambridge residents and seven were from neighboring areas such as Boston, Watertown, and Medford. • Despite the fact that malicious destruction (-4%) declined slightly, it is still generating significant numbers and remains a community concern. Tagging in and around the King School, Harvard Square and it's commercial establishments seem to be common targets in Riverside. •

# Comparison of Target Crime Statistics Second Quarter 2001 & 2002

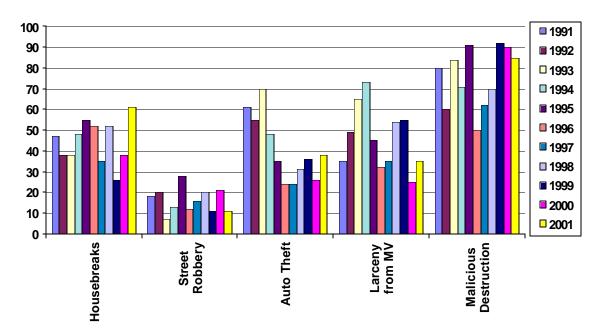
CRIME	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q 2001	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q 2002	% CHANGE	
Housebreaks	22	91	- 5%	
Street Robbery	4	5	+ 25%	
Auto Theft	26	18	- 31%	
Larceny from MVs	20	13	- 35%	
Malicious Destruction	47	45	- 4%	
Drug Arrests	4	11	+ 175%	

## **NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS**

Riverside has the fourth highest population in the city, but it ranks well below the average for almost all index crimes. Among with its ten thousand residents, Riverside has two housing developments (Putnam Gardens and the River-Howard homes), two major parks (Hoyt Field and Riverside Press Park), and many commercial establishments along Massachusetts Avenue, River Street, and Western Avenue. Several Harvard University dormitories and other properties occupy the northwestern quarter. Riverside's borders also encompass the United States Post Office and the Cambridge Police Department headquarters.

Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the northwestern part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on university property.

- **Malicious destruction** is the only crime that has not shown a significant average decline in Riverside since the 1980s, though it is low compared to the rest of the city. Most of this vandalism occurs to motor vehicles. Occasional patterns of this crime over long holiday weekends have been a problem in the past.
- **Street robberies** are on the low side for a neighborhood of Riverside's population, although it has increased since last year. Most of these incidents are on Broadway, although they are spread about the neighborhood. Riverside has an exceptionally low **housebreak** rate for its size; but this too has had a substantial increase from last year's statistics.
- There were 20 arrests for **drugs** this quarter compared to this time last year, which had 27 arrests.
- Auto theft and larceny from motor vehicles have both declined when compared to this
  time frame last year.



ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR RIVERSIDE AREA TARGET CRIMES							
Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2001*		
Housebreaks	83	7	43	6	3		
Street Robbery	34	4	17	6	5		
Auto Theft	92	9	41	9	7		
Larceny from MVs	87	7	48	9	9		
Malicious Destruction	78	9	74	8	5		

<sup>\*</sup>Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest